

Message Text

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SUBJECT: DEPUTY MINISTER SEMENOV'S STATEMENT OF APRIL 15,
1975 (SALT TWO-613)

THE FOLLOWING IS STATEMENT DELIVERED BY DEPUTY MINISTER
SEMENOV AT THE SALT TWO MEETING OF APRIL 15, 1975.

QUOTE

SEMENOV STATEMENT, APRIL 15, 1975

IN THE COURSE OF WORKING OUT AGREED WORDING FOR INCLUSION
IN THE JOINT DRAFT OF THE NEW AGREEMENT, A COINCIDENCE OR
PROXIMITY OF THE POSITIONS OF THE DELEGATIONS ON A NUMBER OF
QUESTIONS UNDER CONSIDERATION HAS BECOME APPARENT. AT THE
SAME TIME, DIFFERENCES CONTINUE TO REMAIN, REQUIRING FURTHER
DISCUSSION.

THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT THE PROBLEM CONSTITUTING THE SUBJECT
OF THE ONGOING NEGOTIATIONS IS QUITE COMPLEX AND EXTREMELY
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IMPORTANT. THIS ENTAILS CERTAIN DIFFICULTIES

WHICH MUST BE OVERCOME BY JOINT EFFORTS TO WORK OUT MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE FORMULATIONS WITHIN THE BOUNDS OF THE EXISTING DIRECTIVES OF THE VLADIVOSTOK UNDERSTANDING. AT THE SAME TIME, MANY OF THE DIFFICULTIES WHICH HAVE ARISEN ARE, IN OUR VIEW, OF AN ARTIFICIAL NATURE, WHILE THE SOURCE OF OTHERS IS AN ARBITRARY, AT TIMES DISTORTED INTERPRETATION OF PROVISIONS RECORDED IN THE AIDE-MEMOIRE OF DECEMBER 10, 1974. WE HAVE SPOKEN ABOUT THIS IN OUR STATEMENTS AT MANY MEETINGS, INCLUDING THE MEETINGS OF FEBRUARY 26, MARCH 18 AND 21, AND ALSO LAST FRIDAY, APRIL 11.

THE USSR DELEGATION BELIEVES THAT AT THIS STAGE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS, GIVEN STRICT ADHERENCE TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE AIDE-MEMOIRE, THERE ARE FAVORABLE OPPORTUNITIES TO CONTINUE, BY COMMON EFFORTS, THE JOINT SEARCH FOR WAYS TO BRING THE POSITIONS OF THE SIDES CLOSER TOGETHER ON QUESTIONS OF THE SUBSTANCE, AS WELL AS THE FORM OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE JOINT DRAFT UNDER PREPARATION. TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE ONGOING DISCUSSIONS IN TERMS OF ACCOMPLISHING THE TASK ASSIGNED TO THE DELEGATIONS, A MUTUAL DESIRE TO MAKE PROGRESS AND A WILLINGNESS TO ACHIEVE MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE CONSTRUCTIVE SOLUTIONS ARE ESSENTIAL. IN THIS WAY, WE BELIEVE, PROGRESS IN OUR WORK CAN BE ENSURED.

IN CONNECTION WITH THE ABOVE, I WOULD LIKE TO SET FORTH SOME CONSIDERATIONS ON THE MATTER OF DEFINITIONS. THIS MATTER IS DIRECTLY RELATED TO EMBODYING IN THE NEW AGREEMENT THAT PART OF PARAGRAPH 2 OF THE AIDE-MEMOIRE, WHICH DEALS FIRST OF ALL WITH THE OVERALL MAXIMUM LEVEL OF STRATEGIC WEAPON DELIVERY VEHICLES (2,400 UNITS) BEING ESTABLISHED FOR THE SIDES, AS WELL AS WITH THE SPECTRUM OF THE SYSTEMS BEING LIMITED--LAND-BASED ICBM LAUNCHERS, SLBM LAUNCHERS, HEAVY BOMBERS AND AIR-TO-SURFACE MISSILES WITH A RANGE OVER 600 KILOMETERS WHEN BOMBERS ARE EQUIPPED WITH THEM. RESOLUTION OF THE QUESTION OF DEFINITIONS IS TO A CERTAIN EXTENT RELATED TO EMBODYING IN THE JOINT DRAFT THE AGREED PROVISIONS WHICH CONSTITUTE THE FOUNDATION OF THE FUTURE AGREEMENT.

AS WE UNDERSTAND IT, THE SIDES ARE AGREED IN PRINCIPLE THAT IT IS DESIRABLE TO WORK OUT A NUMBER OF DEFINITIONS IN CONNEC-
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TION WITH PREPARATION OF THE JOINT DRAFT TEXT OF THE NEW AGREEMENT.

AS STATED HERE ALREADY, THE SOVIET SIDE APPROACHES THE QUESTION OF AGREEING ON FORMULATIONS WHICH WOULD BE ADOPTED AS DEFINITIONS ABOVE ALL FROM THE STANDPOINT OF WHETHER THEY ARE CONSISTENT WITH THE DECISIONS ADOPTED AS THE RESULT OF NEGOTIATIONS AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL, IN ALL THE SCOPE AND

DIVERSIFIED CONTENT OF THESE DECISIONS. AS FOR THE STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS WHICH ARE LIMITED UNDER THE INTERIM AGREEMENT, BASED ON THE DECISIONS RECORDED IN THE AIDE-MEMOIRE, USE SHOULD BE MADE OF THE CORRESPONDING PROVISIONS OF THE AGREEMENT IN FORCE IN CONNECTION WITH THE DRAFT OF THE NEW AGREEMENT BEING PREPARED. AND, AS EXPERIENCE SHOWS, THE DEFINITIONS WORKED OUT IN CONNECTION WITH THIS DOCUMENT, WHICH IS IN FORCE, HAVE FULLY PROVED THEMSELVES IN THE PROCESS OF COMPLIANCE BY THE SIDES WITH THE OBLIGATIONS ASSUMED. AS FOR STRATEGIC WEAPON DELIVERY VEHICLES BEING LIMITED FOR THE FIRST TIME UNDER THE NEW AGREEMENT, IN FORMULATING DEFINITIONS THE DELEGATIONS MUST ALSO BE GUIDED ABOVE ALL BY THE DIRECTIVES CONTAINED IN THE AIDE-MEMOIRE,

FOR EXAMPLE, IT IS PERFECTLY OBVIOUS THAT THE DEFINITION OF THE AIR-TO-SURFACE MISSILE WITH A RANGE OVER 600 KILOMETERS, TO BE LIMITED WHEN BOMBERS ARE EQUIPPED WITH THEM, MUST ACCURATELY REFLECT THE CORRESPONDING AGREED PROVISIONS RECORDED IN THE AIDE-MEMOIRE OF DECEMBER 10, 1974. IN THE COURSE OF DISCUSSIONS, IN PARTICULAR AT THE MEETING OF APRIL 11, 1975, THE USSR DELEGATION CONVINCINGLY SHOWED THAT ACCORDING TO PARAGRAPH 2(A) OF THE AIDE-MEMOIRE, AIR-TO-SURFACE MISSILES WITH A RANGE OVER 600 KILOMETERS, WHICH ARE TO BE LIMITED, INCLUDE ALL MISSILES WITH THAT RANGE, BALLISTIC AS WELL AS CRUISE MISSILES. IN THIS CONNECTION, WHEN BOMBERS ARE EQUIPPED WITH SUCH MISSILES, EACH MISSILE IS TO BE COUNTED AS ONE UNIT IN THE AGGREGATE NUMBER BEING ESTABLISHED FOR STRATEGIC WEAPON DELIVERY VEHICLES (2,400 UNITS).

MR. AMBASSADOR,

IN ITS STATEMENT AT THE APRIL 2, 1975 MEETING, THE U.S. DELEGATION STRESSED THE GREAT IMPORTANCE OF INCLUDING DEFINITIONS
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IN THE JOINT DRAFT OF THE NEW AGREEMENT. WE HAVE CAREFULLY ANALYZED THIS QUESTION. TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE INTEREST OF THE U.S. SIDE, THE SOVIET SIDE PROPOSES TO CONSIDER, IN THE COURSE OF REACHING MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING ON THE SUBSTANCE OF THE WORDING OF DEFINITIONS, THE QUESTION OF INCLUDING THAT WORDING IN THE JOINT DRAFT OF THE NEW AGREEMENT IN A SPECIAL ARTICLE CONTAINING DEFINITIONS, AS WAS DONE IN THE ABM TREATY.

WE BELIEVE THAT THIS PROPOSAL OF THE SOVIET SIDE CONSTITUTES AN IMPORTANT INITIATIVE AND IS A SUBSTANTIAL CONTRIBUTION TO PRODUCTIVE DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEGOTIATIONS.

THE USSR DELEGATION ANTICIPATES THAT THE U.S. SIDE ALSO WILL TAKE POSITIVE STEPS TOWARD REACHING MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING ON THE QUESTION OF DEFINITIONS, AS WELL AS ON OTHER PROBLEMS,

WHOSE SOLUTION COULD CONTRIBUTE TO PROGRESS IN THE ONGOING
NEGOTIATIONS, IN A SPIRIT OF BUSINESSLIKE DISCUSSION OF THE
ASPECTS OF THE DOCUMENT BEING WORKED OUT, ON THE BASIS OF
THE PROVISIONS AGREED AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL. UNQUOTE JOHNSON

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